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Stephanie Mash Sykes, Esq.



June 30, 2017

The Honorable Ajit Pai
Federal Communications Commission (FCC)
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

**Re: Accelerating Wireless Broadband Deployment by Removing
Barriers to Infrastructure Investment, WT Docket No. 17-79; and
Accelerating Wireline Broadband Deployment by Removing Barriers to
Infrastructure Investment, WC Docket No. 17-84**

Dear Chairman Pai:

The African American Mayors Association would like to submit the attached resolution that was adopted by our members on December 16, 2016 into the above referenced dockets for your review and consideration. We remain committed to working collaboratively to bring next generation networks to our cities.

Respectfully Submitted,

Stephanie Mash Sykes
Executive Director and General Counsel
African American Mayors Association

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Resolution Encouraging the Support of Infrastructure Buildout to Pave the Pathway for Next Generation Networks

WHEREAS, the African American Mayors Association (AAMA) advocates for policies that increase the vitality and sustainability of our cities;

WHEREAS, the AAMA recognizes the important role that mobile broadband access plays in creating economically sustainable communities of color;

WHEREAS, the AAMA recognizes that the next generation of mobile connectivity increases network reliability, reduces latency, provides consumers and businesses with higher speeds, and is capable of serving a greater number of wireless devices than current technology;

WHEREAS, to ensure the success of next generation technology, wireless carriers will have to deploy small antenna infrastructure connected via wireline fiber facilities; and

WHEREAS, the AAMA recognizes next generation signals cover shorter distances thus requiring several times as many smaller cells than traditional cell towers and that next generation networks work only if deployed intensively; and

WHEREAS, in order for next generation networks to have maximum impact for consumers that wireless carriers, state and local governments must work together to encourage deployment of this technology.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the AAMA affirms local government's role in balancing the deployment of new generation wireless technology with local governments' role in managing rights-of-way, maintaining safe communities, and promoting economic development;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the AAMA urges local governments to work collaboratively with businesses to bring next generation networks to their cities; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be transmitted to the President of the United States, the Vice President of the United States, members of the United States House of Representatives and United States Senate, the Chairman and Commissioners of the FCC, and other federal, state and local government officials as appropriate.

APPROVED: December 15, 2016